

Amendment to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting ~~an~~the undesirable taste of ~~in an amino acid component in an orally adminstrable~~ composition comprising providing an orally adminstrable composition having at least one amino acid component having an undesirable taste; and adding to an ~~the~~ orally adminstrable composition having ~~at least one component having an undesirable taste, a sulfated polysaccharide a carrageenan in an amount effective to inhibit all or a portion of the undesirable taste, wherein said~~ in an amount ranging from about 2 wt% to about 97 wt% of the orally adminstrable composition ~~component having an undesirable taste comprises at least one amino acid.~~

2. Canceled.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2~~1 wherein said carrageenan is selected from the group consisting of iota carrageenan, kappa carageenan, lambda carrageenan and mixtures thereof.

4. Canceled

5. Canceled.

6. Canceled

7. Canceled

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the concentration of said at least one amino acid component present in the orally adminstrable composition is at least 0.1 g per 100 g of said composition.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein said carrageenan is present in a ratio of at least 0.5 part carrageenan to 1 part amino acid present in the orally administrable composition.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein said carrageenan is present in a ratio of at least 0.8 part carrageenan to 1 part amino acid present in the orally administrable composition.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said ~~component having an undesirable taste~~ orally administrable composition further comprises at least one pharmacologically-active ingredient selected from the group consisting of bronchodilators, anorexians, antihistamines, nutritional supplements, laxatives, analgesics, anesthetics, antacids, H2-receptor antagonists, anticholinergics, antidiarrheals, demulcents, antitussives, antinauseants, antimicrobials, antibacterials, antifungals, antivirals, expectorants, anti-inflammatory agents, antipyretics, and mixtures thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2~~ wherein said carrageenan compound is an iota carrageenan.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~3~~ wherein said carrageenan compound is kappa carrageenan.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2~~ wherein said carrageenan compound is lambda carrageenan.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said at least one amino acid component is selected from the group consisting of glycine, L-alanine, L-arginine, L-aspartic acid, L-cystine, L-glutamic acid, L-glutamine, L-histidine, L-

isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, L-ornithine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline, L-serine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, L-valine, creatine and mixtures thereof.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said orally administrable composition is optionally heated following addition of the sulfated polysaccharide carrageenan.

17. (Currently Amended) An orally administrable composition comprising at least one amino acid component having an undesirable taste or aftertaste and a sulfated polysaccharide a carrageenan in an amount ranging from about 2 wt % to about 97 wt % of the orally administrable composition, sufficient to inhibit all or a portion of said undesirable taste or aftertaste, wherein said component comprises at least one amino acid.

18. Canceled

19. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~4~~17 wherein said carrageenan is selected from the group consisting of iota carrageenan, kappa carrageenan, lambda carrageenan and mixtures thereof.

20. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 17 wherein said orally administrable composition is selected from the group consisting of foods, beverages, pharmaceuticals, nutraceutical, and mixtures thereof.

21. Canceled

22. Canceled

23. Canceled

24. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 17 wherein the concentration of said at least one amino acid component present in the orally administrable composition is at least 0.1 g per 100 g of said composition.

25. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 17 wherein said carrageenan is present in a ratio of at least 0.5 part carrageenan to 1 part amino acid present in the orally administrable composition.

26. (Original) The composition of claim 24 wherein said carrageenan is present in a ratio of at least 0.8 part carrageenan to 1 part amino acid present in the orally administrable composition.

27. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 17 wherein said orally administrable composition ~~component having an undesirable taste~~ further comprises at least one pharmacologically-active ingredient selected from the group consisting of bronchodilators, anorexians, antihistamines, nutritional supplements, laxatives, analgesics, anesthetics, antacids, H2-receptor antagonists, anticholinergics, antidiarrheals, demulcents, antitussives, antinauseants, antimicrobials, antibacterials, antifungals, antivirals, expectorants, anti-inflammatory agents, antipyretics, and mixtures thereof.

28. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~18~~19 wherein said carrageenan compound is an iota carrageenan.

29. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~18~~19 wherein said carrageenan compound is kappa carrageenan.

30. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~18~~19 wherein said carrageenan compound is lambda carrageenan.

31. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 17 wherein said at least one amino acid is selected from the group consisting of glycine, L-alanine, L-

arginine, L-aspartic acid, L-cystine, L-glutamic acid, L-glutamine, L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, L-ornithine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline, L-serine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, L-valine, creatine and mixtures thereof.

32. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one ~~orally-administrable pharmacologically-active~~ amino acid component having an undesirable taste or aftertaste, and a sulfated polysaccharide carrageenan in an amount ~~sufficient to inhibit all or a portion of said undesirable taste or aftertaste ranging from about 2 wt% to about 97 wt% of the pharmaceutical composition, wherein said pharmacologically-active component comprises at least one amino acid.~~

33. Canceled

34. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 33-32 wherein said carrageenan is selected from the group consisting of iota carrageenan, kappa carageenan, lambda carrageenan and mixtures thereof.

35. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32 wherein the ~~pharmacologically-active component composition further comprises at least one pharmacologically active component~~ -is selected from the group consisting of decongestants, expectorants, antitussives, antihistamines, bronchodilators, demulcents, anti-inflammatory agents, antipyretics, analgesics, anesthetics, antimicrobials, antibiotics, peroxides, antibacterials, anticalculus agents, nutritional, supplements, antacids, H2-receptor antagonists, laxatives, antidiarrheals, anorexians, anticholinergics, antinauseants, and mixtures thereof.

36. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32 wherein said composition is selected from the group consisting of compositions for the treatment of cough/cold symptoms, nutritional supplements, ~~and compositions for the treatment of gastrointestinal distress~~ and mixtures thereof.

37. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35-36 wherein said composition is a nutritional supplement.

38. Canceled.

39. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 33-32 wherein said at least one amino acid component is selected from the group consisting of L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, L-phenylalanine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, L-valine and mixtures thereof.

40. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 33-32 wherein the concentration of said at least one amino acid component present in the orally administrable composition is at least 0.1 g per 100 g of said composition.

41. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 40 wherein said carrageenan is present in a ratio of at least 0.5 part carrageenan to 1 part amino acid present in the pharmaceutical composition.

42. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 41 wherein said carrageenan is present in a ratio of at least 0.8 part carrageenan to 1 part amino acid present in the pharmaceutical composition.

43. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 33-34 wherein said carrageenan compound is an iota carrageenan.

44. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 33-34 wherein said carrageenan compound is kappa carrageenan.

45. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 33-34 wherein said carrageenan compound is lambda carrageenan.

46. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32 which further comprises at least one ~~element~~ additional component selected from the group consisting of natural flavor, artificial flavor, sweetener, artificial sweetener, oil, fat, minerals, ~~and~~ vitamins and mixtures thereof.

47. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim ~~33~~ 32 wherein said amino acid component is a mixture consisting of 4-8% L-histidine, 6-10% L-isoleucine, 10-15% L-leucine, 5-15% L-lysine, 5-20% L-methionine, 5-15% L-phenylalanine, 5-15% L-threonine, 1-8% L-tryptophan, 5-15% L-tyrosine, and 15-25% L-valine.

48. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 42 further comprising at least one vitamin and at least one source of minerals.

49. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 31 wherein said composition is in a dry powder form.

50. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 31 wherein the composition is dissolved or dispersed in an aqueous based medium.

51. Canceled

52. Canceled

53. Canceled

54. Canceled